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Information is based on approvals granted in Japan. In some cases, the approved details may vary in countries other than Japan.

In deciding to use a medicine, the risk (side effects) of taking the medicine must be weighed against the benefit (effects) it will do. The patient's cooperation is indispensable here.

### **Brand name: DOPASTON POWDER 98.5%**

Active ingredient: Levodopa Dosage form: mostly white powder

Printings on wrapping:

### Effects of this medicine

This medicine is taken up into the brain; changes into dopamine to supplement insufficient dopamine; takes effect on akinesia, muscle rigidity and tremor associated with Parkinson's disease and parkinsonian syndrome; and consequently improves bodily movement on daily life.

It is usually used for the treatment of Parkinson's disease and parkinsonian syndrome.

### Before using this medicine, tell your doctor/pharmacist

- If you ever experienced any allergic reaction (itch, rash, etc.) to any medicine. If you are a patient with glaucoma.
- · If you are pregnant or breastfeeding.
- If you are using any other prescription or nonprescription (OTC) medicine. (It is important to reduce the risk of drug interactions.)

# Dosage regimen (proper use of this medicine)

· Your dosage regimen is:

:order of your doctor

- General dosage regimen: For adults, take 250 to 750 mg of the active ingredient daily, immediately after meal, in 1 to 3 divided doses. After that, the daily dosage will be increased by 250 mg, every 2 or 3 days, and the optimal maintenance dose (standard daily dose is 1.5 to 3.5 g) will be determined. The dosage may be adjusted according to the diseases, age or symptoms. This preparation contains 985 mg of the active ingredient in a gram. Strictly follow the instructions of your doctor/pharmacist.
- Missed dose: Take a dose as soon as possible when you remembered that you missed a dose.
  However, if it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and continue your regular dosing schedule. DO NOT take double doses to make up for the missed dose.
- Overdose: If you took too much of the medicine (more than ordered), check with your doctor/pharmacist.
- Others: Do not stop taking the medicine without the instructions of your doctor.

### Precautions while using this medicine

- The medicine may cause sudden sleep; unconsciousness; decline of attention, concentration or reflection. Avoid driving a car or operating dangerous machinery after taking the medicine.
- Consult your doctor if your sweat, urine or saliva turned black while you are receiving the treatment with the medicine.

#### Side effects of this medicine

Common side effects are reported as below. If any of them occurs, check with your doctor/pharmacist: nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, dyskinesia (tremor, continuous involuntary movements of tongue or jaw), insomnia, headache, dry mouth, dizziness, rash, anemia, etc.

In rare cases, symptoms described below may be the sign of side effects indicated in brackets [ ]. If they occur, stop taking your medicine and check with your doctor immediately.

- · high fever, muscle rigidity, tremor or convulsion of the limbs [ neuroleptic malignant syndrome ]
- loss of sense of place or time, to see or hear nonexistent things, general malaise [ confusion, hallucination, depression ]
- epigastric pain, tenderness, vomiting [deterioration of gastric or duodenal ulcer]
- general malaise, palpitation, breathlessness, reddish brown urine [hemolytic anemia]
- sudden drowsiness without any signs [ sudden sleep ]

Other side effects not listed here may occur. Check with your doctor/pharmacist if you have any worrisome symptom.

Continued on next page.



## Storage and other information

- Keep the medicine out of the reach of children. Store it away from direct sunlight, heat and moisture.
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$  Discard the remainder. Do not store them.

For doctor use only: Day Month Year

For further information, ask your doctor/pharmacist. Japanese package insert information (for medical professionals) is available on the website of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency.

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